

OBITUARY

WILLIAM DEWITT FIELD (1914-1992)

William Dewitt Field was a curator of entomology at the United States National Museum, Smithsonian Institution, for over 30 years. He published 49 papers on Lepidoptera, primarily butterflies, during the period 1934-77, and one more is in press. His major interest was butterfly literature and nomenclature, as well as jazz music (he kept an extensive collection of LP records at his home in Falls Church, Virginia). Perhaps his best known work was the *Manual of the Butterflies and Skippers of Kansas* (1940), which was based on his Master's Thesis. In the latter part of his career his research included revisionary studies of various butterfly and moth groups and compilations of literature on butterflies.

Bill Field was born in Lawrence, Kansas, on 3 December 1914. He earned his B.A. (1936) and M.A. (1938) at the University of Kansas, and held a Graduate Fellowship there from 1938-40. From September 1936 to September 1938 he also held a curatorship at the Cheyenne Mountain Museum, Colorado Springs, Colorado, and taught courses in biology at Mountain Valley School for Boys in Colorado Springs. He was hired in September 1940 as an Assistant Entomologist by the Division of Insect Identification, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Bill joined the U.S. Army in 1943 and served with the Malaria Survey Unit until 1946, at which time he rejoined the Division of Insect Identification as an entomologist. The following year (1947) he transferred to the Smithsonian Institution's Division of Insects as a curator of entomology, a position that he held until his retirement on 30 August 1980. Probably his best friend was José Herrera, a lepidopterist from Chile with whom Bill conducted research on Andean-Patagonian pierids. Gerardo Lamas held a postdoctoral fellowship with Bill (1976-77), at which time they began work (with Richard G. Robbins) on the *Bibliography of Neotropical Butterflies*.

William Field's post-employment years were dedicated to gardening, but poor health interfered with this avocation and eventually led to his death on 20 February 1992. Bill is survived by his second wife, Madeline, and four children.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS BY WILLIAM FIELD

1934

1. On the naming of "transition forms" in Lepidoptera with notes on certain forms captured near Lawrence, Kansas. *Canad. Entomol.* 66:253-257.

1936

2. Three new butterfly races. *Entomol. News* 47:121-124.
3. New North American Rhopalocera. *Pomona Coll. J. Entomol. Zool.* 28:18-26.

1937

4. A new seasonal form of *Coenonympha ampelos* Edwards. *Canad. Entomol.* 69:249-250.

1938

5. A new butterfly record for the United States. *Entomol. News* 49:28.
6. Variation in *Habrodais grunus* (Boisduval). *Bull. Southern California Acad. Sci.* 37: 23-29.
7. A new race of *Lycaena mariposa* (Reakirt). *Pan-Pacif. Entomol.* 14:142-143.
8. New forms and subspecies of North American Libytheidae and Lycaenidae. *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 11:124-133.

1939

9. A new species of *Plebejus* Kluk from Idaho. *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 12:135-136.

1940

10. Distribution notes on *Amblyscirtes nysa* Edwards. *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 13:7.
11. New records of butterflies for Kansas. *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 13:28-29.
12. Some unusual butterfly records for Kansas. *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 13:50.
13. Distributional notes on *Copaeodes aurantiaca* (Hewitson). *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 13:50.
14. A distribution note on *Grais stigmaticus* (Mabille). *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 13:57.
15. A new skipper record for the United States. *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 13:57.
16. A manual of the butterflies and skippers of Kansas. *Bull. Dept. Entomol. Univ. Kansas*, number 12 [*Bull. Univ. Kansas* 39(10):1-327].
17. A distributional note on *Achalarus lyciades* (Geyer). *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 13:114.
18. A distributional note on *Heterochroa bredowii* (Geyer). *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 13: 123.
19. A note on *Argynnis cybele krautwurmi* Holland. *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 13:229.
20. *Calycopis beon* (Cramer), a new butterfly record for the United States. *Bull. Brooklyn Entomol. Soc.* 35:134-135.
21. Distributional notes and comments upon a collection of Mexican Lepidoptera. *Bull. Univ. Kansas* 41:339-354.

1941

22. Additional notes on *Calycopis cecrops* (Fabricius) and *Calycopis beon* (Cramer). *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 14:66-69.

23. Notes on *Erora laeta* (Edwards) and *Erora quaderna* (Hewitson). Ann. Entomol. Soc. Am. 34:303-316.

1942

24. Racial variation in *Hemiargus isola* (Reakirt). J. Kansas Entomol. Soc. 15:36.
25. Racial variation in *Strymon columella* (Fabricius). J. Kansas Entomol. Soc. 16:153.

1948

26. The correct name for the North American butterfly variously called *Nymphidia*, *Calephelis* or *Lephelisca*. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Washington 50:207-213.

1950

27. Moths of the genus *Cincia* and three new and closely related genera. Proc. U.S. Natl. Mus. 100:311-326.
28. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature and the correct name for the North American monarch butterfly. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Washington 52:234-236.

1951

29. On a recent proposal to correct an error committed by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature at the Paris 1948 Meeting. Science 113:68-70. With J. F. Gates Clarke and John G. Franclemont as junior authors.
30. Moths of the genus *Paramulona* Hampson. Proc. U.S. Natl. Mus. 101:489-496.
31. On the proposed suppression of the trivial name "ajax" Linnaeus, 1758. Bull. Zool. Nomen. 6:105-106.
32. A revision of *Eurema* Hübner subgenus *Teriocolias* Rober. Acta Zool. Lilloana 9:359-374.

1952

33. Moths of the genus *Mulona* Walker and *Lomuna*, a new and closely related genus. Proc. U.S. Natl. Mus. 102:221-230.
34. Moths of the genus *Epeiromulona*, a new genus of Lepidoptera: Arctiidae, Lithosiinae. Proc. U.S. Natl. Mus. 102:455-469.

1958

35. A redefinition of the butterfly genera *Tatochila*, *Phulia*, *Piercolias*, and *Baltia*, with descriptions of related genera and subgenera. Proc. U.S. Natl. Mus. 108:103-131.

1959

36. A revision of the butterfly genera *Theochila* and *Tatochila*: Lepidoptera, Pieridae. Proc. U.S. Natl. Mus. 108:467-514. With Jose Herrera as senior author.

1964

37. Moths of the genus *Rhabdatomis* (Arctiidae: Lithosiinae). Proc. U.S. Natl. Mus. 115: 46-60.

1966

38. Preliminary revision of the butterflies of the genus *Calycopis* Scudder (Lycaenidae: Theclinae). Proc. U.S. Natl. Mus. 119:1-48.

1967

39. Butterflies of the new genus *Calystryma* (Lycaenidae: Theclinae, Strymonini). Proc. U.S. Natl. Mus. 123:1-31.

1970

40. List of the butterflies of Kansas, including native and visitant species. Mid-Continent Lepid. Ser. 13:1-16. [A reprint of paper number 16 of this list, pages 273-288.]
41. *Papilio hyllus* Cramer, 1776, vs. *Polyommatus thoe* Guerin-Meneville, 1831, and the "50-year rule." J. New York Entomol. Soc. 78:175-184. With F. Martin Brown as senior author.

1971

42. Butterflies of the genus *Vanessa* and of the resurrected genera *Bassaris* and *Cynthia* (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae). Smithsonian Contrib. Zool. 84:1-104.

1972

43. Introduction (page i) to "Report on a Collection of Butterflies made mostly at Ft. Chimo, Ungava, Hudson Strait, by L. M. Turner in July, August and September, 1883-4," by W. H. Edwards. Mid-Continent Lepid. Ser. 2(32).
44. Introduction (pages i, ii) to "An Index to the Described Life Histories, Early Stages and Hosts of the Macrolepidoptera of the Continental United States and Canada," by Harrison Morton Tietz. Allyn Mus. Entomol. 1041 pages. With J. F. Gates Clarke.

1973

45. African butterflies: Three book reviews. Bull. Entomol. Soc. Am. 19:223-224.

1974

46. Four book reviews: Butterflies of the Australian region, by Bernard D'Abrera, 1971; Australian butterflies, by Charles McCubbin, 1971; Butterflies of Australia, by Ian F. B. Common and Douglas F. Waterhouse, 1972; Jamaica and its butterflies, by F. Martin Brown and Bernard Heineman, 1972. Proc. Entomol. Soc. Washington 75: 486-488.
47. A bibliography of the catalogs, lists, faunal and other papers on the butterflies of North America north of Mexico arranged by state and province (Lepidoptera: Rhopalocera). Smithsonian Contrib. Zool. 157:1-104. With Cyril F. Dos Passos and John H. Masters as junior authors.

1975

48. The ctenuchid moths of the genera *Ceramidia* Butler, *Ceramidiodes* Hampson and the *caca* group of the genus *Antichloris* Hübner. Smithsonian Contrib. Zool. 198: 1-45.

1977

49. The pierid butterflies of the genera *Hyposchila* Ureta, *Phulia* Herrich-Schaffer, *Infraphulia* Field, *Pierphulia* Field, and *Piercolias* Staudinger. *Smithsonian Contrib. Zool.* 232:1-64. With José Herrera as junior author.

1993

50. A bibliography of the Neotropical butterflies. In Heppner, J. B. (ed.), *Atlas of Neotropical Lepidoptera*. *In press*. With Gerardo Lamas and Richard Robbins as senior authors.